

Serial No.: 10/771,086

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this patent application, particularly in view of the above Amendment and the following remarks.

Amendment to the Claims

Applicants have amended Claim 1 to incorporate objected to but allowable Claim 2. Applicants have accordingly changed the dependency of Claim 2. Applicants have amended objected to but allowable Claims 7 and 9 to place such claims into independent form. Applicants have further amended Claim 10 to incorporate objected to but allowable Claim 12. Applicants have accordingly changed the dependency of Claim 12. Applicants note that the Examiner has indicated Claims 13-17 are allowable. Finally, Applicants have added new Claim 18. Applicants urge that the above amendments add no new matter to the application. There is a fee for the above Amendment as the total number of claims of independent claims has increased from three to six. Applicants hereby authorize the Commissioner to charge Deposit Account 19-3550 for any additional fees.

Claims Rejection - 35 U.S.C. §102 THE KOLPACKI PATENT

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as unpatentable over Kolpacki, U.S. Patent 3,258,000. Applicants respectfully urge that this rejection is moot in view of the above Amendment and the following remarks.

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Applicants have amended Claim 1 and 10 to include the limitations of objected to, but allowable, Claims 2 and 12, respectively. Applicants urge that such amendment should result in the allowance of Claim 1-12.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above Amendment and remarks, Applicants sincerely believe that Claims 1-18 of this patent application are now in condition for allowance and early allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. D. Erickson".

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